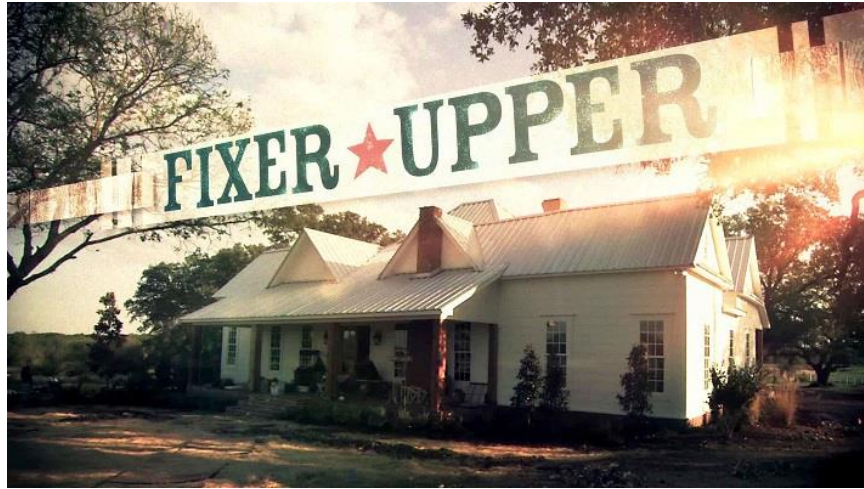


“CHRISTIAN HOME FIXER UPPER” Series Outlines



- 1) A Mother's Nurture and Care (1 Thessalonians 2:6-9)
- 2) Biblical Foundations of Marriage (Genesis 2:18-25)
- 3) Biblical Roles in Marriage (Ephesians 5:22-33)
- 4) Single-Minded for Christ (Matthew 6:31-34)
- 5) What's a Kid to Do? (Ephesians 6:1-3)
- 6) A Father's Motivation (1 Thessalonians 2:10-12)
- 7) Spiritual Mismatch (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)
- 8) Open Hearts, Open Homes (Romans 12:9-13)

You can access full text copies of all eight messages in the series at the following web address: <http://www.rayfowler.org/sermons/christian-home-fixer-upper/>

Please include the following notice on any distributed copies:

By Ray Fowler © Ray Fowler

Website: <http://www.rayfowler.org/>

“A Mother’s Nurture and Care”
1 Thessalonians 2:6-9

I. A godly mother is gentle with her children, not a burden to them. (6-7)

- see also Galatians 5:22-23

A. Use gentle words (Proverbs 15:1, 18:21; 2 Timothy 2:24-25; 1 Peter 3:3-4)

B. Exercise loving but firm discipline (Proverbs 6:23, 13:24, 25:15, 29:17)

C. Carry your children’s burdens (Matthew 11: 28-30; Galatians 6:2;
Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Peter 5:7)

II. A godly mother shares the gospel as well as her life with her children. (8)

A. Delight to share your life with your child.

1) They are not young for long ó enjoy them!

2) They need your nurture and care.

B. Delight to share the gospel as well.

1) Read them God’s Word. (2 Timothy 1:5, 3:15)

2) Bring them to church.

3) Set the example.

III. A godly mother works hard to fulfill her role. (9)

- see also 2 Thessalonians 3:7-8

A. Mothering is tiring work.

B. Mothering is difficult work.

C. Mothering is unending work.

“Biblical Foundations of Marriage”

Genesis 2:18-25

öMarriage is an ordered, covenant relationship between a man and a woman based on a public vow of lifetime faithfulness.ö

I. Marriage is an ordered, covenant relationship.

- A. Marriage is a picture of God’s ordered relationships within the trinity.
(Genesis 1:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:3, 11-12)

- B. Marriage is a picture of God’s covenant relationship with his people.
(Isaiah 54:5, 62:5; Jer 2:1-2; Hosea 2:19-20; John 3:28-29; Rev 19:6-9, 21:2)

II. Marriage is between a man and a woman.

- A. God created woman to be man’s partner and companion.
- Genesis 2:18, 21

- B. Jesus affirmed marriage as between a man and a woman.
- Mark 10:6-8

- C. The Bible condemns homosexual activity as sin.
- Leviticus 18:22; Romans 1:24-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Hebrews 13:4

III. Marriage is based on a public vow of lifetime faithfulness.

- A. Marriage is a public institution (not just living together).
- Genesis 2:22-25

- B. The marriage vow is the heart of the marriage.
 - 1) It is a vow of lifetime commitment (Mark 10:6-9)
 - 2) It is a vow of sexual faithfulness (Exodus 20:14; Proverbs 5:15-23)

“Biblical Roles in Marriage”
Ephesians 5:22-33

I. Wives should submit to their husbands as to the Lord.

- Ephesians 5:22-24

A. The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church.
(22-23)

B. As the church submits to Christ, so wives should submit to their husbands.
(24)

II. Husbands should love their wives as Christ loved church.

- Ephesians 5:25-32

A. The husband should sacrifice for his wife as Christ gave himself up for the church. (25-27)

B. The husband should love his wife as he loves his own body. (28-32)

III. The husband must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. (Ephesians 5:33)

- We must each focus on our own role, not on our spouse's role.

Why do we struggle so much with this?

- distorted teaching on roles in marriage

- root sin problems >

- root problem for women = the sin of rebellion

- root problem for men = the sin of selfishness

“Single-Minded for Christ”
Matthew 6:31-34

What does it mean to seek first God’s kingdom and his righteousness as a single person in the body of Christ?

I. Serve Christ wholeheartedly while you are single. (1 Corinthians 7:32-35)

- the gift of singleness (1 Corinthians 7:7; Matt 19:10-12)

- the freedom from other responsibilities (Matt 6:34; Luke 10:41)

II. Commit yourself to uncompromising moral purity. (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8)

- Do not be sexually active outside of marriage.

- Do not live together outside of marriage.

III. Pursue God-honoring relationships with other believers. (2 Timothy 2:22)

- What to look for: righteousness, faith, love and peace

- Who to look for: those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart

IV. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

- Delight yourself in the Lord. (Psalm 37:4)

- Don’t be in a hurry. (1 Corinthians 7:39-40)

“What’s a Kid to Do?”
Ephesians 6:1-3

I. Obey. (Ephesians 6:1)

A. Obey your parents in the Lord. (Proverbs 1:8)

B. It is the right thing to do. (Colossians 3:20; 2 Timothy 3:1-4)

II. Honor. (Ephesians 6:2)

A. Honor your mother and father. (Exodus 20:12; Leviticus 19:32;
Proverbs 23:22; Matthew 15:3-6)

B. It is the first commandment with a promise. (Exodus 20:12)

III. Enjoy! (Ephesians 6:3)

A. You will enjoy a good life. (Proverbs 3:1-2)

B. You will enjoy a long life. (Proverbs 6:23)

The example of Jesus: *“Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”* (Luke 2:51-52)

“A Father’s Motivation”
1 Thessalonians 2:10-12

I. Motivate your children by encouraging them ...

- Proverbs 18:21

- with your words.

- with your presence.

- with your support.

II. Motivate your children by comforting them ...

- Proverbs 20:5; Luke 15:20; 2 Corinthians 1:3

- by listening to them.

- by empathizing with them.

- by physical touch.

III. Motivate your children by urging them to live lives worthy of God ...

- by instructing them in God’s word. (1 Chronicles 28:8-9; Psalm 78:5-6;
Proverbs 4:1-4; Ephesians 6:4)

- by disciplining them when necessary. (Proverbs 19:18, 29:17)

- by setting the example yourself. (Titus 2:7; 1 Thessalonians 2:10)

“Spiritual Mismatch”

(2 Corinthians 6:14-16; 1 Corinthians 7:12-16; 1 Peter 3:1-2)

Three biblical commands concerning spiritual mismatch:

I. God commands you as an unmarried believer not to marry an unbeliever.
(2 Corinthians 6:14-16)

II. God commands you as a married believer not to divorce your unbelieving spouse. (1 Corinthians 7:12-16)

III. God commands you as a married believer to be a witness to your spouse by your godly behavior. (1 Peter 3:1-2; Titus 2:10)

Deuteronomy 10:12-13: *“And now . . . what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD’s commands . . . that I am giving you today for your own good?”*

“Open Hearts, Open Homes”
Romans 12:9-13

I. Christian hospitality blesses other people.

- Luke 14:12-14; Hebrews 13:1-2

II. Christian hospitality strengthens Christian community.

- Romans 12:13

III. Christian hospitality opens doors for the gospel.

- 1 Thessalonians 2:8

IV. Christian hospitality reflects God’s love for us.

- Psalm 23:5-6

V. Christian hospitality reflects our love for Jesus.

- Matthew 25:34-40

Ten ways you can practice hospitality: 1) offer special meals; 2) offer ordinary meals; 3) host a small group or Bible study in your home; 4) let your kids & friends hang out at your house; 5) have people over to watch a movie or a game; 6) host a missionary for lodging or a meal; 7) provide temporary housing during a crisis; 8) host an international student; 9) provide foster care; 10) adoption